

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/685,317

Examiner

Tung S Lau

Applicant(s)

NOWER ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2-17-2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11-17,23 and 24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>11-8-2004</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Andrew Neely on Nov. 8, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1-10 and 18-22.

In claim 15, replace line 1-11 with:

Claim 15. (currently amended) An alignment system for aligning a centerline of a first shaft with a centerline of a second shaft comprising:

an analyzer having memory,

a mounting bracket having engagement surfaces for engaging, the first shaft and securing the bracket to the first shaft,

a sensor head having a facing surface and a rear surface in opposing relation disposed on the mounting bracket and extending in a substantial perpendicular orientation with respect to the centerline of the first shaft,

a collimated light source mounted on the sensor head for transmitting a beam of energy in a direction that is substantially parallel to the first shaft,

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a photosensitive sensor mounted on the sensor head for sensing light and
generating a position signal corresponding to a position of a light beam impinging
upon the photosensitive sensor.

Remarks: Claim 15 reflects the changes on 1-8-2004.

Claims 1-10 and 18-22 are cancelled. Claims 1-10 and 18-22 are non-elected invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 11-17, 23 and 24 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
Independent claims 11, 12, 15 and 24 contain allowable subject matter. None of the prior art of record shows or fairly suggests the claimed invention.

Regarding claims 11, 12, 15:

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 11, 12 and 15 are the inclusion of an alignment a centerline of a first shaft with a centerline of a second shaft including a collimated light source mounted on the sensor head for transmitting a beam of energy in a direction that is substantially parallel to the first shaft. It is these features found in the claim, as they are claimed in the combination, that

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has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes this claim allowable over the prior art.

Claims 13 and 14 are allowed due to their dependency on claim 12.

Claims 16, 17 and 23 are allowed due to their dependency on claim 15.

Regarding claim 24:

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 24 is the inclusion of an alignment including a second dual-axis accelerometer having a third sensing axis for sensing a third acceleration component and a fourth sense axis for sense a fourth acceleration component wherein the third and fourth sense axes are in substantially perpendicular relation.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung S Lau whose telephone number is 571-272-2274. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on 571-272-2269. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TL

BRYAN BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Bryan Bui
11/9/04